

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): An information retrieval service system comprising:
an information retrieval site connected to the Internet, said information retrieval site comprising:
a retrieval server, and
a retrieval database communicably linked to said retrieval server, wherein
said retrieval server of said information retrieval site is configured to retrieve from a plurality of information providing sites data ~~representing details of~~ providing detailed information regarding similar services respectively provided by said information providing sites, store in said retrieval database the data providing the detailed information regarding the similar services which is retrieved from said information providing sites ~~in said retrieval database~~, retrieve from said retrieval database ~~data corresponding to the data providing the detailed information regarding the similar services in response to~~ information-retrieval input information received by said information retrieval site from an information terminal, and transmit to said information terminal said data providing the detailed information which is retrieved from said retrieval database ~~to said information terminal~~ so as to cause a monitor of said information terminal to display ~~said data retrieved from said retrieval database~~ said data providing the

detailed information regarding the similar services respectively provided by said information providing sites in a comparative manner.

2. (currently amended): The information retrieval service system according to claim 1, wherein

said retrieval server is configured to retrieve from said information providing sites said data ~~representing details of~~ providing the detailed information regarding the similar services respectively provided by said information providing sites by periodically accessing said information providing sites.

3. (currently amended): The information retrieval service system according to claim 1, wherein

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said ~~data retrieved from said retrieval database includes~~ retrieval server is further configured to transmit to said information terminal a hyperlink indicating an Internet address of the information providing site ~~providing from which the data and which~~ providing the detailed information regarding the similar services is retrieved, wherein said hyperlink is embedded in a data image that is displayed on said monitor of said information terminal.

4. (previously presented): The information retrieval service system according to claim 1, wherein

cl said information retrieval site further comprises a user registration database configured to store a profile of a user, and

said retrieval server is configured to retrieve the data corresponding to the information-retrieval input information, according to the profile of the user, which is read from said user registration database.
